

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

April 25, 1989

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 89-32

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ADOPTION AGENCIES  
ALL SDSS ADOPTIONS DISTRICT OFFICES

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF CHAPTER 412, STATUTES OF 1988,  
DEFERMENT OF SPECIFIC CHILDREN FROM PHOTOLISTING  
SERVICE

ACIN I-123-88 dated December 16, 1988 provided prior notification of changes effective January 1, 1989 in the adoption photolisting service as a result of enactment of AB 2140, Chapter 412, Statutes of 1988. The purpose of this letter is to provide interim instructions for public and private adoption agencies while the necessary regulatory changes are being processed.

This legislation defers children from being photolisted who are already in potential adoptive placements and whose adoptions are delayed because of a documentation requirement which cannot be met within the 60 working day time frame for photolisting of all legally free children with a case plan goal of adoption.

Therefore, pending revision of current regulations to conform to the statutory changes, a child shall be deferred from the photolisting service when that child's foster parents or other identified individuals who have applied to adopt them are meeting the adoption agency's requests for required documentation, and are cooperating in the completion of the homestudy. The "required documentation" for purposes of qualifying for this exemption includes:

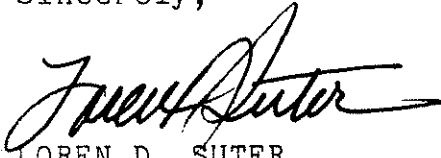
- a) fingerprint clearances
- b) verification of marital status, which includes verification of termination of all prior marriages
- c) report of a medical examination for each applicant
- d) a certificate that the individual is free from communicable tuberculosis for each adult residing in the home
- e) school reports for all children residing in the home of the applicant

- f) at least three letters of reference regarding the suitability of the applicant as an adoptive parent.

We intend to amend regulation and handbook material to comply with the statute and to include an outside time limit for deferment from photolisting. We are considering a limit of six months from the time the child is placed in the home for the purpose of adoption. We believe that this is a reasonable deadline for adoptive parents to meet all the necessary documentation requirements. We would appreciate any suggestions or reactions you may have.

Questions regarding this change may be addressed to Ms. Jennifer C. Smith, Policy Consultant, at (916) 323-0470. Questions specific to the procedures for photolisting may be addressed to Mr. Marvin Sims, Program Specialist, at (916) 323-0590.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loren D. Suter", with a stylized, flowing script.

LOREN D. SUTER  
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA